

### REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the comments of the Examiner on page 4 of the action lines 5-17 in which the Examiner states that the argument and illustration regarding a blockage in the trap section 12 of Khun at or downstream of the connecting port is agreed with. However, the Examiner asserts that the claim language is not specific as to where in the “trap section” the potential blockage may occur yet still operate as claimed.

This is believed to be overcome in the three independent claims now presented.

In currently amended claim 1, the auxiliary trap section is recited as being attached to the general trap section at a point (M) above the equilibrium water level at a first end and attached to the general trap section at a point (N) below the equilibrium water level at a second end, such that if the general trap section became blocked water would flow through the auxiliary trap section.

Claim 6 is similar to claim 1 and recites that the improvement comprises an auxiliary trap disposed between the inlet pipe and the outlet pipe and having an inlet end operatively attached to the inlet pipe at point (M) and an outlet end is operatively attached to the outlet pipe below the equilibrium water level at a point (N) such that if the general became blocked water would flow through the auxiliary trap yet air would not freely communicate between the inlet pipe and the outlet pipe.

Added claim 11 is similar to claim 6 but recites an improved drain trap structure for installation in buildings, the improvement comprising a duct branched off the inlet section at or above said predetermined level (M) and is connected to the ascending portion of the trap at a location so that the uppermost edge portion of the entrance opening of said duct into the ascending portion is disposed in a predetermined level distance (N) below the overflow water level.

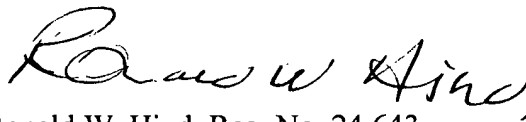
Kuhn does not prevent the siphon from becoming blocked nor does it provide an alternate route when it is blocked. Therefore, the water flows back until it finds an outlet and floods. Furthermore, blocking the outlet opening by means of a ball, which is nowhere to be found in applicant's two-way trap, may occur when no one is present resulting in considerable damage.

The depending claims add additional features to those discussed in the independent claims 1, 6 and 11. For example, claims 2, 3, 4 and 5 recite respectively: an alarm for indicating when water is flowing through the auxiliary trap because the general trap is blocked; a manhole to provide access for repair; the auxiliary trap being in vertical alignment with the general trap; and the auxiliary trap being offset to one side of the general trap. These features are not disclosed in a two-way trap having the character defined in claim 1.

Claims 7, 8, 9, and 10 depend from claim 6. Claim 7 and 8 recite the manhole feature and the alarm feature of claims 3 and 2 respectively. Claims 9 and 10 recite that the diameter of the auxiliary trap is smaller than the diameter of the general trap and that the general trap and the auxiliary trap are formed from straight plastic pipe respectively. These features are likewise not disclosed in a two-way trap having the character defined in claim 6.

In view of the above, it is believed that the limitations provided in all of the presently submitted claims render all of the claims allowable and reconsideration of the final rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald W. Hind", is written over the typed name.

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